

5 **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

 An integrated circuit and method for providing a switchover
from the primary power source to the secondary power source to
prevent a volatile element from losing stored data. The
integrated circuit includes a forced power source switchover
10 circuit for detecting that the supply level of the primary power
source drops below a predefined threshold level. A switchover
circuit on the integrated circuit initiates a switchover
operation based upon the forced power source switchover circuit
detecting that the supply level being received from the primary
15 power source drops below the predefined threshold level. The
detection by the forced power source switchover circuitry may
occur on a signal level that transitions faster than a
predetermined negative rate of change. The integrated circuit
may be incorporated in any system having volatile elements, such
20 as memory or a clock.